



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/666,901

Applicant: Nicholls *et al.*

Examiner: Daniel H. Miller

Filed: September 18, 2003

Art Unit: 1775

For: ARTIFICIAL TURF BACKING

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir or Madam:

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed January 31, 2007 and is filed attendant to the filing of a Request for Continued Examination. A petition and fee for a three month extension of time is also attached.

In that Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4-5, 7, 9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as having been "obvious" over U.S. Patent No. 6,818,274 (*Buck*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,048,282 (*Prevost*); rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as having been "obvious" over *Buck* in view of *Prevost* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,152,473 (*Layman*); rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as having been "obvious" over *Buck* in view of *Prevost* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,939,166 (*Cheng*); and rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as having been "obvious" over *Buck* in view of *Prevost* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,051,300 (*Fink*).

This application contains a total of ten claims. Of these, claim 1 is presented in independent form. The remaining claims 2, 4-5 and 7-12 depend on independent claim 1 and are therefore to be construed as incorporating all the limitations of claim 1. 35 U.S.C. §112. If